

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ABSTRACT

1 A method of making artificial barrier islands or break waters. The method
2 consists of driving a series of piles in the shape of the island, attaching a number of wire
3 mesh sections, to form a fence around the perimeter of the piles, connecting the tops of
4 the piles with cables, and then filling the formed enclosure with riprap (rock) material.
5 Once the rock has reached the water surface, it is covered with suitable soil and
6 vegetation to create the island. The piles and mesh are hidden below the water surface
7 and the formed island takes on a natural appearance. In this way, the artificial island is
8 a barrier to storms, thus protecting the shoreline and wetlands from erosion. Moreover,
9 the artificial island creates an ideal habitat for birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians. In
10 certain environments one island can protect approximately 10 times the amount of
11 shoreline that lies behind it.